

What's New in Dance Dresses

by
Lady
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LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.

Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

Lady Duff-Gordon's American establishment is at No. 19 East Fifty-fourth street, New York City.



This Tight-Waisted, Long-Bodied Gown Is Made of Silk Velvet.

By Lady Duff Gordon ("Lucile")

THE midwinter modes distinctly register the influence of Spanish taste in dress.

The dark women are having their day, or rather their evenings. The black-haired, dark-eyed woman of medium height, or less, are coming into their own. At least they are having their several hours, in fact every twenty-four, when they can impress their type upon the beholder. They have entered into rivalry with the tall, svelte young woman, the sinuous, long-limbed sisterhood that for so long has been the feminine mode. These women owe their recurring vogue to the Spanish influence in dress. For the Spanish woman is the mother of the Spanish style of dressing.

Regard the left-hand figure on this page. This tight-waisted, long-bodied dancing gown is in one of the dark shades to which Spanish taste inclines for the foundation of its most elegant gowns. The model is black. It can, however, be worked out effectively in dark brown, or an equally dark green. It is of silk velvet. Venetian lace is used for the under bodice. The skirt which, you observe, swirls about the ankles, being much longer than its predecessors in evening gowns, is full at the low belt line and flares widely at the hem. A comb, both broad and high, an indispensable part of the Spanish costume, is encrusted with amethysts. The costume suggests a portrait of the Spanish beauty of another and more romantic age.

On the right hand you see a model which I call my "Betty." It is built on quaint lines of blue taffeta with silver-lace trimming. The robe has the lines of a chemise, very full at the hips and gathered at the ankle length hem. A moderately wide pleating defines the shoulders and front and hem of the chemise. This pleating is finished on either side by a silver band. A narrow sash of jade green chiffon, finished with a wide silk fringe and tied by a prim, small bow at the waist sounds a sumptuous color note. Hand-made flowers of the silver and blue taffeta appear at the opening of the gown over the underslip, which is of accordion pleated flesh-colored chiffon.

The middle figure shows a more pretentious frock than either. Its chief building materials are gold lace and black net. The harem skirt of distinctly trousered effect is of old gold taffeta. Over this is worn a robe of gold lace. The robe is veiled and slightly subdued by drapery of the finest black net. The graceful sleeves, full, long and pointed, convey the effect of butterfly wings. Along the side of the corsage, and slightly defining a part of the waist, is a slender spray of black flowers.



A Splendid Mingling of Gold Lace with Black Net.

Blue Taffeta and Silver Lace Compose This Dress.

